

# KENTUCKY'S ENVIRONMENT



# EQC

is a seven-member citizen board that advises officials on environmental matters, provides a public forum for the discussion of issues and monitors environmental conditions. To receive the free EQC newsletter, call (502)564-2150 ext. 160, e-mail EQC@mail.state.ky.us, or write to EQC at 14 Reilly Rd., Frankfort, KY 40601. You can also submit your comments at our Web site at [www.kyeqc.net](http://www.kyeqc.net). Printed bimonthly with state funds.

The Newsletter of the Environmental Quality Commission  
Volume 17, No. 4 July-August 2001



## EQC Reports on Environmental Trends and Conditions

The Kentucky Environmental Quality Commission recently issued its fifth update to the State of Kentucky's Environment report. The report shows that we have made significant headway in protecting the environment, from reducing farmland erosion rates to prosecuting open dumpers. These are some of the 25 areas where EQC has documented progress. Consider these facts:

- a record number of Kentucky's households, 80 percent, now participate in a door-to-door garbage collection program;
- public drinking water in many communities is safer, with far fewer persistent violators of safe drinking water standards;
- levels of air pollution continue to decline, making our air safer to breathe; and
- populations of some of the state's most fragile species of wildlife, like the bald eagle and Virginia big-eared bat, are increasing – the result of protecting critical habitat.

However, many important challenges still remain. EQC found the state is losing ground in 20 areas. Some examples of these disturbing trends are as follows:

- water quality inspections, violations and fines were near record lows in 1999;
- the state continues to lose its best farmland to other uses - with 109 acres per day being converted to urban areas;
- Kentuckians are consuming more energy than ever before and conserving less natural resources; and
- toxic chemicals, such as mercury, have made their way into our lakes and rivers, thereby making it unsafe for many people to consume some species of freshwater fish.

Kentucky's prosperity and quality of life depends greatly on the health of our environment. It is important to look at these trends -

### MEETINGS/CONFERENCES

**August 16-26 - 2001: A Water Odyssey** (exhibit at KY State Fair)  
Contact: Clark Dorman at (502) 839-8994 or [dorman1@peoplepc.com](mailto:dorman1@peoplepc.com).

**August 22-24 - Kentucky Mining Institute 62nd Annual Meeting** - Stumbo Park, Allen. Contact: Geaunita Caylor at (859) 257-2820 or [gcaylor@engr.uky.edu](mailto:gcaylor@engr.uky.edu).

**August 27-30 - Monitoring & Modeling Nonpoint Source Pollution in Agricultural Landscapes** - Hyatt Regency, Indianapolis, Indiana. Contact: Conservation Technology Info Center at (765) 494-9555.

**September 7-8 - Old McDonald vs. Industrial Agriculture - Farmers, Safe Food & the Environment** - Featured Speaker - Wendell Berry - Sponsored by the Cumberland Chapter Sierra Club, Kentuckians for the Commonwealth, KY Commodity Growers. Galt House, Louisville. Registration must be made by August 16. For more information, visit the Web site <http://kentucky.sierracub.org/>.

**September 14-15 - Kentucky Wood Expo** - Western Kentucky University Ag. Complex, Bowling Green. Purchase advance tickets for only \$3. Contact: KY Forest Industry Association office at (502) 695-3979.

**October 30-31 - Governor's Conference on the Environment** - Embassy Suites, Lexington. Contact: Boyce Wells, (502) 564-2150.

### PUBLIC NOTICES/HEARINGS - PERMITS

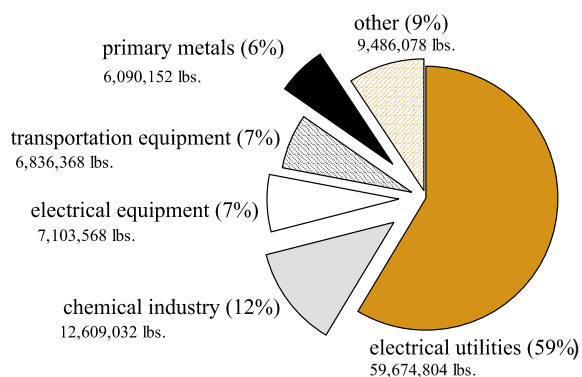
#### KY Division of Waste Mgt. - Solid Waste Notices

•**Laurel Ridge Landfill**, Lily (Laurel Co.) – Landfill requests extension of expiration date of permit to Jan. 1, 2007 in order to maintain a valid permit for the next 5-year period of the operational life of the landfill. Contact: Anita Young at (502) 564-6716, ext.522.

#### KY Division of Waste Mgt. - Hazardous Waste Notices

•**Newport Steel Corp.**, Newport (Campbell Co.) – Denial of application to renew hazardous waste permit for an existing landfill. Public comment period closes Sept. 10, 2001 unless a request for a public hearing is received. If a request for a hearing is received, it is tentatively scheduled to be held on Sept. 21 at 7 p.m. at the Wilder City Building in Wilder, KY. Contact: Michael Welch at (502) 564-6716,

## Toxic Chemical Releases in KY by Source (1999)



**Coal-fired power plants led Kentucky in toxic chemical releases in 1999, accounting for 59 percent of the 100 million pounds of toxic chemicals reported released to the environment.**

Note: Releases reported at site of generation. Source: Toxics Release Inventory Report.

both the good and the bad - in order to have a better idea of the progress Kentucky has achieved to date, as well as the issues continuing to face the state.

While Kentucky faces many environmental challenges, none are as great as managing our waste. Kentuckians are generating and disposing of more waste than ever before - some 5.5 pounds per person per day. That amounts to 22 million pounds of garbage a day. An estimated 5 to 7 percent of Kentucky's population is still illegally dumping their waste. That amounts to 1.5 million pounds of waste per day. While Kentucky is winning the battle to clean up open dumps, with some 2,000 dumps cleaned up in 1999, we are losing the war as dumpers toss their waste down yet another hillside.

*continued back page --see SOKE*

ext.246.

•**Atofina Chemicals Inc.**, Calvert City (Marshall Co.) – Permit modification to replace the facility's Contingency Plan with an Integrated Contingency and Response Plan. Contact: Michael Welch at (502) 564-6716, ext.246.

•**Bluegrass Army Depot**, (Madison Co.) – Moving 1-ton container of sarin nerve agent to secondary containment in a stainless steel pan. Contact: Michael Welch at (502) 564-6716, ext.246.

•**Atkemix Ten Inc.**, (Jefferson Co.) – Renewal of hazardous waste post-closure permit. Contact: Michael Welch at (502) 564-6716, ext.246.

•**Environmental Conservation Systems Inc.**, Brooks (Bullitt Co.) – Permit modification to incorporate an updated closure plan that will allow the facility to close in accordance with updated technical standards. Comment period will end Sept. 12, 2001. Contact: Michael Welch at (502) 564-6716, ext.246.

#### KY Division of Water - KPDES Permit Notices

•17 Discharge Permit Issuances/Reissuances - (Public Notice 2001-23); 1 Permit Modification - (Public Notice 2001-23); 10 Discharge Permit Issuances/Reissuances - (Public Notice 2001-24). Contact: Brenda Childers or Herb Ray at (502) 564-3410.

#### KY Division of Waste Mgt. - Underground Storage Tanks

(Contact Ramendra Dutta at 502-564-3410, ext.162 for more information.)

•**Curry Oil Bulk Plant**, London (Laurel Co.) (8305-063).

•**Ashland Inc.**, Ashland (Boyd Co.) (2921-010).

•**Cissells Automotive Service**, Pewee Valley (Oldham Co.) (7678-093).

•**Bills Phillips 66**, Nortonville (Hopkins Co.) (1740-054).

#### KY Division for Air Quality - Public Notices

(Contact George Day at 502-573-3382 for more information.)

•**Conditional Major Source Construction/Operating Permit (Title V does not apply)** – Firestone Building Prod., Covington (Kenton Co.); Sun Mfg., Williamstown (Grant Co.).

•**Conditional Major Source Operating Permit (Title V does not apply)** – Centria, Frankfort (Franklin Co.); Redline Racing, Paducah (McCracken Co.).

*continued back page - see Public Notices*





Environmental Quality Commission  
Meeting Announcement

## EQC Public Meeting



### DATE CHANGE

**September 25, 2001**

**(Changed from August 23)**

1 p.m., Room 131, Capitol Annex,  
Frankfort, KY

### ***Economic Growth in Kentucky***



*All EQC meetings are free and open to the public. Meeting facilities are accessible to people with disabilities. Auxiliary aids, interpreters, and other services will be provided upon request by contacting EQC.*

#### **Public Notices - continued from front page**

- Prevention of Significant Deterioration Construction/Operating Permit-** Westvaco Kentucky LP, Wickliffe (Ballard Co.).
- Synthetic Minor Operating or Construction Permit at a Title V Source (PSD regs. do not apply)** – Atofina Chemicals Inc., Carrollton (Carroll Co.).
- Title V Operating Permit Significant Revision** - Westvaco Kentucky LP, Wickliffe (Ballard Co.).

#### **PROPOSED STATE REGULATIONS**

**Division for Air Quality** - proposes to amend 401 KAR 57:002 part 61 national emission standard for hazardous air pollutants, 60:005 part 60 standards of performance for new stationary sources, 63:002 part 63 national emission standards for hazardous air pollutants for source categories. *Contact: Heather Weese at (502) 573-3382.*

#### **SOKE - continued from front page**

As we look to the future, Kentucky's environment will face even more challenges from a growing population, expanding economy, record logging of forests and the energy crisis. Now, Kentucky's environmental programs are also facing budget cuts due to a projected state revenue shortfall. The impact of these cuts could greatly impair the state's ability to maintain the environmental progress achieved to date.



To order a copy of the 2000-01 *State of Kentucky's Environment* report containing more than 200 charts detailing environmental trends send a **\$10** check, made payable to the **Kentucky State Treasurer**, to:

**EQC; 14 Reilly Road; Frankfort, KY 40601**

#### **PUBLICATIONS/NOTES OF INTEREST**

##### **State Auditor Reports Kentuckians at Risk from "Nonpoint Source" Water Pollution**



According to a report released by State Auditor Ed Hatchett, Kentucky's efforts to detect and prevent nonpoint source water pollution from animal feeding operations, straight pipes and mining operations are hampered by administrative weaknesses. The audit found:

- The "straight piping" of human waste into waterways and the incidence of faulty sewage systems is largely undocumented and unaddressed across the state.
- More than 180 concentrated animal feeding operations in Kentucky do not have state water pollution control permits required by the EPA.

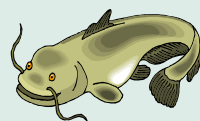
To view a copy of the report, visit the State Auditor's Web site at <http://www.kyauditor.net/Public/Home.asp>

##### **Kentucky Natural Resources Leadership Institute (KNRLI) Accepting Applications for Class of 2002**



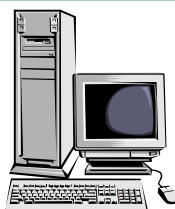
KNRLI is now accepting applications for the 2002 class that begins in January. KNRLI provides an opportunity for people with differing opinions and interest to meet and learn together about conflict resolution, leadership qualities and skills, natural resources issues and policymaking processes. It is an 18-month program consisting of a three-day seminar each month from January to June, except for May when the class spends four days in Washington, D.C. Registration fee is \$600; participants pay their own travel expenses. Financial aid is available. Contact Jennifer Thompson at (859) 257-2943 or [jthomps@ca.uky.edu](mailto:jthomps@ca.uky.edu) or visit <http://www.uky.edu/agriculture/forestry/nrli.htm> for more information. Applications are due by Oct. 31, 2001.

##### **Aquaculture Production Grants**



County conservation district offices are accepting applications for the Kentucky Aquaculture Production System Grant Program. This program provides financial reimbursement to new and established Kentucky aquaculture producers for expenses incurred in the establishment of a commercial aquaculture production system. [Applications for reimbursement of expenses related to aquaculture production system development planned for between July 1, 2001, and June 20, 2002, will be accepted through Aug. 30, 2001.] *Contact: KY Division of Conservation at (502) 564-3080 for more information.*

#### ***Receive EQC Newsletter Via Email***



Do you have an e-mail address? If so, we can e-mail you the EQC newsletter saving postage costs. To sign up to receive *Kentucky's Environment* electronically point your Web browser to [www.kyeqc.net](http://www.kyeqc.net) and click on menu item "Contact." Complete the online form. In the comments field please type in "electronic newsletter." The next issue will be sent via e-mail as an Adobe Acrobat file (.pdf) attachment.

Do you have a question or comment about the environment? Contact the Natural Resources and Environment Cabinet's Web site at <http://www.kyenvironment.org/nrepc/feedback/feedback.htm> to report a problem or ask a question.



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